

ITEM#	13
DATE:	<u>11-22-16</u>

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH BOTTLESODE FILMS TO OPERATE DRONE WITHIN 5 MILES OF AMES MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

BACKGROUND:

On September 13, 2016, the City Council referred a request from Joe Sines, owner of Bottlesode Films, to operate a drone, also known as a Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS), within five miles of the Ames Municipal Airport. Since that time, staff has worked with Mr. Sines to collect his required paperwork. This includes his FAA sUAS pilot's license, proof of his sUAS registration, and proof of insurance. All of these requirements are outlined in the regulations for sUAS that were recently finalized by the FAA.

Staff found that Mr. Sines has complied with all applicable sUAS codes and standards, and staff has drafted an agreement with Bottlesode Films (Joe Sines) to have permission to operate within the five-mile radius of the Ames Airport.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the agreement with Bottlesode Films, c/o Joe Sines, to operate a sUAS within five miles of the Ames Municipal Airport.
2. Reject the agreement.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By approving this agreement, the City will continue to support aviation innovation in the Ames area, while complying with best safety practices in sUAS operation. Ultimately, the experience gained by working with these operators will help staff develop a more complete sUAS policy for Ames.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.